BROWNIES at WORK and PLAY

by N. Moore Banta

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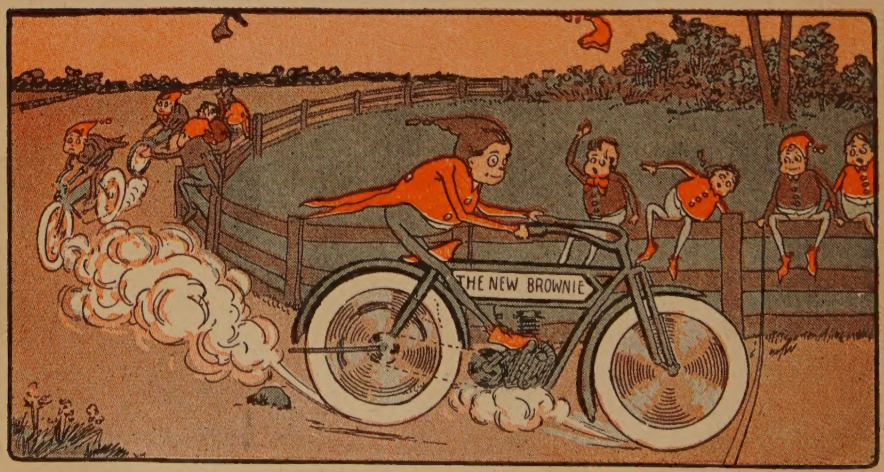
THE NEW BROWNIE

Brownies *at* Work *and* Play

By
N. MOORE BANTA

ILLUSTRATED BY
Dorothy Dulin and Frank Wagner

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BROWNIE GOOD LUCK

"Little Good Luck brownie man"

See the little brownie man! His name is Good Luck.

He is little Good Luck brownie man.

He is a happy little brownie.

How do you do, little brownie Good Luck?

"He lives in a hollow tree"

How do you do, little brownie man?
Where do you think Good Luck lives?
What a queer home he has!
He lives in a hollow tree.

One evening little Good Luck peeped out at the door.

He said, "It is a fine evening. I will make hay to-night."

Then he went back into his house.

"I will first eat my supper"

He said, "I will first eat my supper."

He sat down at the table. He ate his bowl of bread and milk.

"Farmers wear straw hats in the hayfield," said Good Luck.

Then he put on his big straw hat. He went out into the hayfield.

He said, "I will get my fork."

He soon found his fork.

"I like to pitch hay"

Then he said, "I like to pitch hay. I will pitch hay with my fork. I like to make hay."

Good Luck pitched hay fast.

"I must pick up the sticks"

He said, "I like to pitch hay very fast."

Good Luck made hay while the night was fine.

He made hay while the moon was shining.

He soon finished making hay. He put his fork away.

Then little Good Luck said, "I must keep the yard clean."

How quickly he went to work! He worked very fast.

He said, "I must pick up the feathers. I must pick up the sticks."

He picked up all the feathers and sticks.

He said, "I must pick up the straw. I must pull up all the weeds."

He picked up all the straw. He pulled up all the weeds.

Then little brownie Good Luck said, "Now the yard is clean. I must find other work to do."

BROWNIE GOOD LAD

"Brownie Good Lad"

Here is another little brownie man. His name is brownie Good Lad.

I see you, little brownie man.

How do you do, little brownie Good Lad?

Brownie Good Lad is brownie Good Luck's brother.

Brownie Good Lad likes to work.

Early one morning he went out to feed the chickens.

Good Lad said, "I will get a pan. I will put some corn into the pan. I will feed the chickens."

He said, "The chickens are hungry. They like to eat corn. I like to feed them."

Then Good Lad found a pan.

He put some corn into the pan.

"Now," said he, "I have enough corn for the whole flock."

He went out to the chicken yard.

He called the chickens. The chickens came running. They were very hungry.

"My dear chickens"

Good Lad said, "My dear chickens, I have brought you some corn."

Then he fed the corn to the chickens. The chickens ate the corn fast. They liked to have the little brownie man feed them.

Good Lad said, "Are my chickens all here? I will count them."

"There should be just one dozen chickens," said he.

So he counted, "One, two, three, four, five, six, seven, eight, nine, ten, eleven, twelve."

Then he said, "They are all here. There are eleven hens. There is one rooster."

Good Lad lived in a farm house. Some good children lived in this house.

"Peep from behind the door"

"He watched the children"

Good Lad lived in an old cupboard. The old cupboard was in the basement.

He would peep from behind the door!

He watched the house. The house must be kept clean.

He watched the children. He kept them from getting hurt.

They must clean their feet. They must put their playthings away.

Good Lad liked good children. He liked them to be happy and clean.

He did not like dirty hands and dirty faces. He did not like dirty clothes.

Good Lad said, "I like happy, clean children. I like to see them play. I like to see them work."

Good Lad watched the basement. It must always be clean. Everything must be picked up.

He kept the floor swept clean.

He climbed into his old cupboard. He lay down on the shelf. He peeped out at the door.

Then he could watch everything.

There were three kegs in the basement.

"Stopped the hole with his finger"

Maple syrup was in one keg. In another one was corn syrup.

The third keg was full of cider.

Good Lad liked the syrup. He liked the cider.

He said, "I like syrup. I like cider. The

syrup must not leak out. The cider must not leak out."

So Good Lad watched the syrup kegs. He watched the cider keg.

Sometimes the kegs leaked.

Good Lad stopped the hole with his finger.

He stood there till some one came to stop the leak.

OUT IN THE CORNFIELD

"Good evening"

"Good evening, Good Lad," said Good Luck.

"Good evening, Good Luck," said Good Lad.

"The moon shines bright to-night," said Good Luck.

"Yes," said Good Lad, "it is a fine evening to husk corn."

"Let us husk corn," said Good Luck.

Our two little brownies went out to the cornfield. They took a sack along with them.

Brownie Good Lad climbed up one cornstalk.

Brownie Good Luck climbed up another cornstalk.

They began husking corn. They liked that kind of work.

"I like to husk corn," said brownie Good Luck.

"We must husk fast," said brownie Good Lad.

The brownies worked very fast.

They had a jolly time. They climbed up

"They climbed up the cornstalks"

the cornstalks. They climbed down again.

They soon husked enough to fill the sack.

Then they put the corn into the sack.

"Our sack is full," said Good Luck.

"Let us carry the sack to the barn," said Good Lad.

They carried the sack of corn to the barn.

They sat down on the hay. They shelled the corn.

They took the corn to the mill. Soon they had fine meal.

Then they made pudding. The pudding was fine and sweet.

The brownies ate the pudding.

BROWNIE SUNNY DAY

"A happy little brownie"

Sunny Day is a happy little brownie. He is always pleasant. He is always smiling.

He is as pleasant as the sunshine. That is why he is called Sunny Day. He likes to work. He likes to play.

Sunny Day is a very useful little fairy. He will do all kinds of chores. He says, "I like to do chores."

Once the maid put cream into the churn.

She did this late in the evening.

Then she left the churn in the kitchen.

Late at night the house was dark and still.

Then Sunny Day came into the kitchen. He saw the churn.

He said, "I like to churn."

But the churn was too high for Sunny Day. What could he do?

He was a wise little brownie.

He said, "I will get the little red stool."

"Up and down went the churn dasher"

Then he took the little red stool. He put it close to the churn.

He climbed up on the little red stool.

"Now," said he, "I can churn."

He took hold of the dasher handle.

First he pulled it up. Then he pushed it down.

Up and down went the churn dasher. He churned very fast.

He sang a little song while he churned.

The next morning the maid said, "Who has been here? The churning is done!"

Then she said, "Little brownie Sunny Day has been here. He did the churning. He is a good little brownie."

HELPING IN THE HOUSE

"The brownies worked fast"

"We must help with the work to-night," said Brownie Good Luck.

"I will carry in the water," said brownie Good Lad.

"I will carry in the wood," said brownie Good Luck.

"And I will do the scrubbing," said Brownie Sunny Day.

Then the three little brownies went to work.

Good Lad carried in the water.

He said, "I like to carry in water."

Good Luck carried in the wood.

He said, "I like to carry in wood."

Sunny Day did the scrubbing.

He said, "I like to scrub."

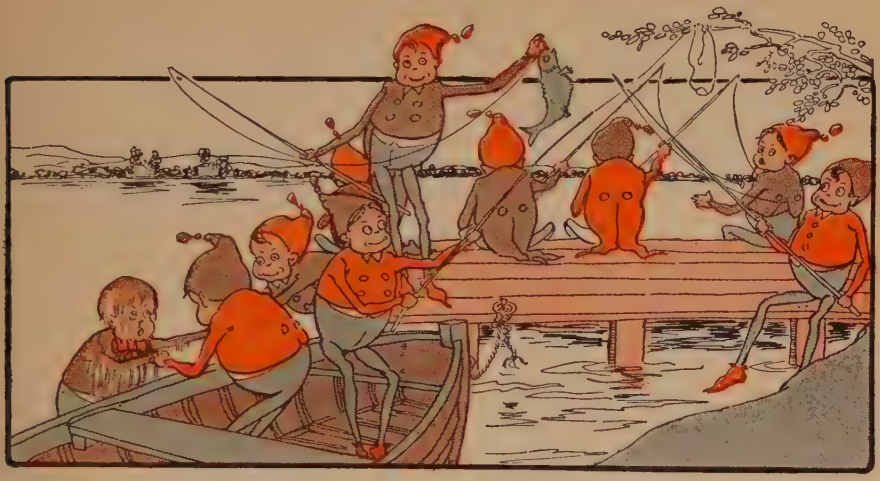
"See me carry water," said Good Lad.

"See me carry wood," said Good Luck.

"See me scrub," said Sunny Day.

The brownies worked fast. They did their work well.

They soon had the work all done.



"They all went fishing"

"Let us go out and play," said Good Lad.

"The night is fine," said Good Luck.

"The moon shines bright," said Sunny Day.

Then the three little brownie men went out to play.

They found some more brownies.

They borrowed a fisherman's boat.

Then they all went fishing.

BROWNIE GOODFELLOW

"Goodfellow"

Here is brownie Goodfellow. He is ready to eat his supper. He likes grapes.

He eats a bowl of bread and milk or a bowl of soup every evening.

Goodfellow says, "I like to eat bread and milk. I like to eat soup. I like grapes."

"I like grapes"

Goodfellow has a strange little face. It sometimes looks old. It sometimes looks young.

Sometimes he is beautiful. Sometimes he is wrinkled and homely.

Sometimes he is fat. Sometimes he is thin.

This little brownie lives in a home where there are children.

The children like Goodfellow. They feed him every evening.

Sometimes they give him bread and milk. Sometimes they give him soup.

But the children never see Goodfellow. He eats his supper after the children go to bed.

Goodfellow is a fine little brownie. He is never lazy.

He helps keep the house in order. He likes to see the house neat and clean.

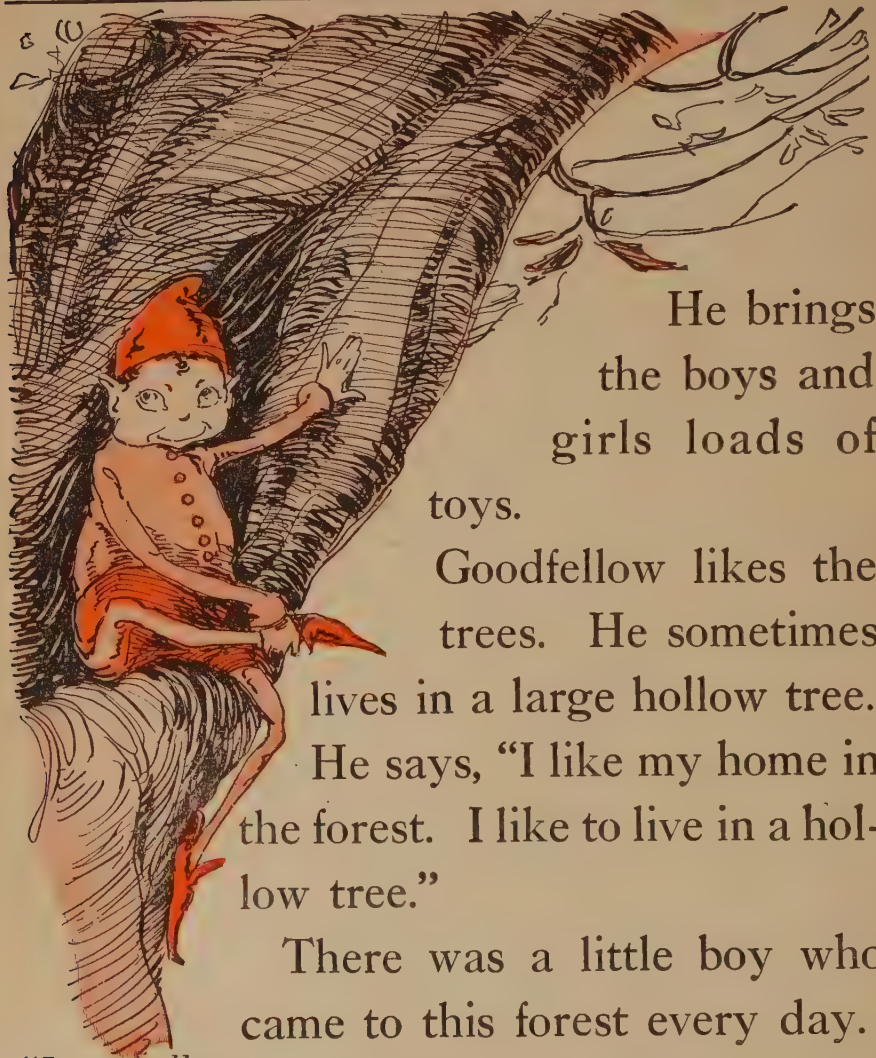
He says, "I like little girls and boys. I will help them. I will make them happy."

He makes them happy in their play. He brings them happy dreams.

He knows how to make toys.

Goodfellow says, "Boys and girls like toys. I will make toys for them."

"Loads of toys"



"In a hollow tree"

He brings the boys and girls loads of toys.

Goodfellow likes the trees. He sometimes lives in a large hollow tree. He says, "I like my home in the forest. I like to live in a hollow tree."

There was a little boy who came to this forest every day. His name was Alan.

Alan came to the forest to watch the

swine. He watched the swine carefully to keep them from running away.

Goodfellow and Alan became good friends. Goodfellow helped Alan watch the swine.

"Good friends"

Alan often took Goodfellow upon his shoulder.

Goodfellow would say, "I like you, Alan."

Alan would say, "I like you, Goodfellow."

Alan's master was a cross old man. He was very cross.

Alan was a good boy. He always tried to do right. The master was cross anyway.

"He blew toot! toot! toot!"

One day he switched Alan with a big switch.

Brownie Goodfellow had a little whistle. It was a little magic whistle.

Goodfellow put the whistle to his mouth.

He blew toot! toot! toot!

The cross old man stopped switching Alan.

He threw down the switch quickly. He clapped his hand upon his back.

The whistle made his back feel full of stickers.

It felt just as though bees were stinging his back.

The cross old man didn't switch Alan any more. He was afraid the magic whistle would blow again.

After that Alan and Goodfellow were very happy.

Alan helped Goodfellow and Goodfellow helped Alan.

OUT IN THE MOONLIGHT

"Playing in the moonlight"

See the four little brownie men! They are very happy little fairies.

Do you know their names?

"They work and play"

Yes, that is right — Good Luck, Good Lad, Sunny Day, and Goodfellow.

They are out playing in the moonlight.

They like the moonlight. They like to play on moonlight nights.

They work and play when the moon shines. The dew is falling when the brownies play. They like to dance by the light of the moon.

They dance and play when the moon begins to shine.

Dance lightly, little brownies. Dance around two by two.

Dance about lightly, little brownies. Dance about, three by three.

Then dance some more, four by four.

Happy dancing little brownies, dance again, five by five.

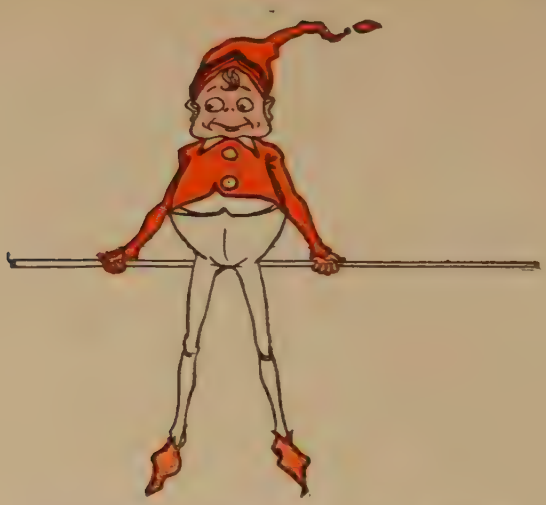
"Dance again, five by five"

BROWNIE CLOD

"He likes to throw clods"

Here is little brownie Clod. What is brownie Clod doing?

He is throwing clods. He likes to throw clods. That is the reason he is called Clod.



"He does not like bad boys"

Brownie Clod makes his home in the house of a farmer.

He does not like bad boys. When he sees bad boys he throws clods at them. He will not let a bad boy stay on the farm.

When a bad boy comes on the farm brownie Clod throws a clod at him.

Then he throws another clod. Soon the air is full of clods.

"Cannot see the brownie"

The boy can not see the brownie. He does not know where the clods come from.

He soon gets frightened. He runs away fast. He runs as fast as his legs can carry him.

Run fast, bad boy, run fast! Don't come back any more.

Brownie Clod will hit you. He will throw some more clods at you.

"Now move there"

Brownie Clod likes to play checkers. The farmer likes to play checkers, too.

Brownie Clod tells the farmer how to play.

"Brownie Goodfellow visits Brownie Clod"

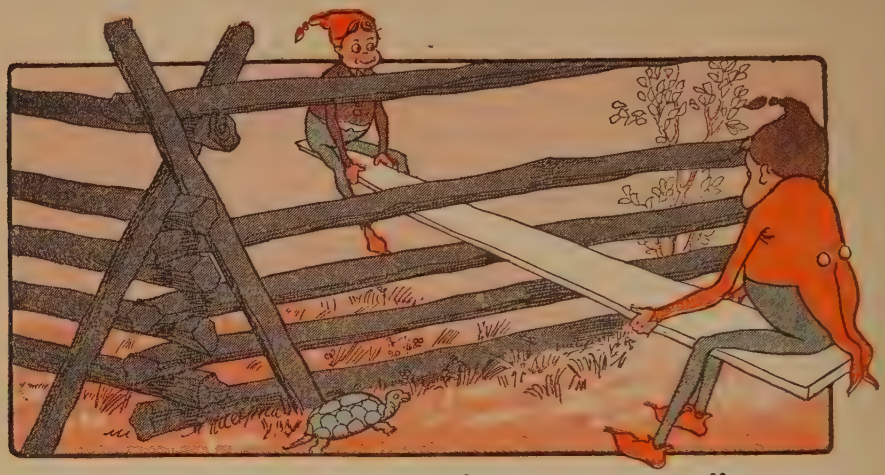
Everybody thinks the farmer is a good checker player. But he can not play well unless the brownie stands by him.

The brownie says, "Move here. Now move there."

Then the farmer wins the game.

Nobody can see the brownie. Neither can they hear him.

So everybody thinks the farmer does the playing.



"Sometimes they play teeter-totter"

Sometimes brownie Goodfellow visits brownie Clod. Brownie Goodfellow likes to play checkers, too.

Brownie Clod gets out the checkerboard.

Then the two brownies play checkers nearly all night.

Sometimes they go out in the moonlight and play teeter-totter.

Up goes Goodfellow. Down goes Clod. Up goes Clod. Down goes Goodfellow.

BROWNIE FUNNY PLAY

Who is this little brownie? His name is Funny Play.

He is sitting on the window sill. He shakes his feet at the dog.

The dog barks at the brownie. The brownie likes to hear the dog bark.

He says, "Bark, dog, bark!"

He shakes his feet some more at the dog. The dog jumps high. He cannot catch brownie.

Then Funny Play says, "Look at my little feet! Look at my little feet!"

The dog jumps up higher and barks louder.

Funny Play says, "See me shake my little feet."

One day he shook his little feet too hard. He fell off the window sill.

He fell right down on the dog's back.

The brownie was frightened. The dog was frightened.

The dog started to run fast. Funny Play held on tight.

The dog ran faster. Funny Play held on tighter.

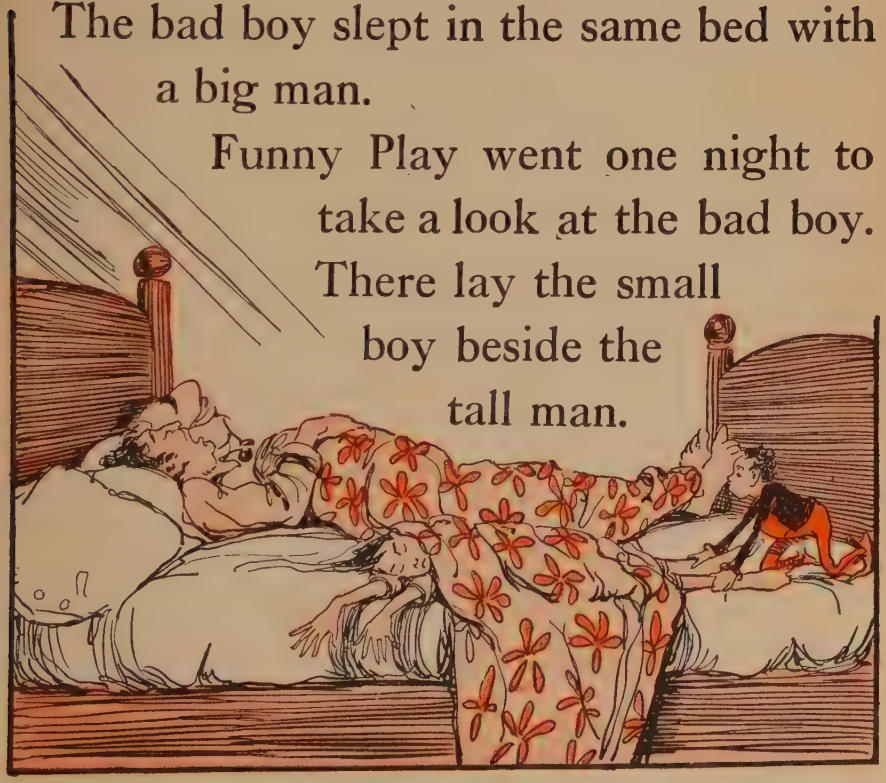
The dog ran round and round the house.

Funny Play still held on tight. Then the dog jumped over the fence. Funny Play fell off behind.

There was a bad boy who lived on the farm where Funny Play lived.

The bad boy slept in the same bed with a big man.

Funny Play went one night to take a look at the bad boy. There lay the small boy beside the tall man.



"Short and long don't match"

Brownie said, "Short and Long don't match."

He took hold of the boy's feet and pulled him down to the foot of the bed.

Brownie then went up to the head of the bed.

He said, "Short and Long don't match."

Then he took hold of the boy's ears and dragged him up to the head of the bed.

But he could not make the boy as long as the man. Still he kept on trying.

Every time he pulled the boy up or down, he said, "Short and Long don't match."

This pulling up and down so much gave the bad boy bad dreams.

He dreamed he fell off the house many times. The next morning he told about his bad dreams.

His mother said, "The brownie brought you these bad dreams. I'm afraid you haven't always been a good boy."

Then the tall man said, "Be a good boy, and the brownie will bring you sweet and rosy dreams."

NIMBLE HOP AND THIMBLE TOP

"Nimble Hop and Thimble Top fed the baby birds"

Two brownies once lived in a hollow tree.

The hollow tree was away out in the forest.

The name of one brownie was Nimble Hop. The name of the other one was Thimble Top.

Nimble Hop could hop very fast. That is why he was called Nimble Hop.

Thimble Top once wore a cap like a thimble. That is why he was called Thimble Top.

Many birds lived in the forest near Nimble Hop and Thimble Top.

Many bird nests were in the trees.

Little baby birds were in the nests.

Nimble Hop and Thimble Top watched over the little birds. They saw that no harm came to the birds.

They watched the baby birds in the nests. Nimble Hop and Thimble Top fed the baby birds.

"Out in the forest"

The little birds were always hungry. The brownies liked to feed them.

"I like to feed the little birds," said Nimble Hop.

"I will feed them every day," said Thimble Top.

The little birds grew fast. They were soon big birds. Then they sang sweet songs to the brownies.

ROBIN REDBREAST

"Could not stand up"

One day Nimble Hop heard a noise at his door. He opened the door and looked out.

There stood one of his best friends. It was Robin Redbreast.

"How do you do, friend Robin?" said Nimble Hop.

"I am very sick," said Robin.

Poor Robin could not stand up. He fell over on his side.

Nimble Hop put his arms around Robin.

He said, "Poor Robin Redbreast, come right into the house. Thimble Top and I will take care of you."

Nimble Hop helped Robin Redbreast into the brownie house in the hollow tree.

Thimble Top was away from home just then. He soon came home.

"Have you hurt yourself, Robin?" said Thimble Top.

"I have hurt my leg," said Robin. "It is as bad as bad can be."

"We will take care of you," said Thimble Top.

So Nimble Hop and Thimble Top took care of Robin Redbreast.

"Thimble Top came home"

They gathered some moss. They covered Robin from tail to chin.

They brought food for Robin to eat. With such good care Robin soon got well.

You may be sure, he liked the little brownies.

He could not thank them enough. He wished to give them some fine presents.

Robin went to the Willow-Weaver.

He bought two good suits of clothes. He bought two neckties, two caps, and two shirts.

Robin gave the Willow-Weaver four nice red feathers for the clothes.

Robin now went to the Crusty Cobbler. He bought two new pairs of shoes.

He gave the Crusty Cobbler three nice red feathers for the shoes.

Then he went to Nimble Hop and Thimble Top. He gave them the coats, trousers, shirts, neckties, shoes, and caps.

You may be sure, the brownies were pleased. They could not thank Robin enough.

They put on the shirts and trousers. They put on the shoes and neckties. They put on the coats and caps.

"They stood before the mirror"

Then they stood up before the mirror.

Nimble Hop said, "Aren't we dressed up fine?"

Thimble Top said, "Now we can go to the brownies' ball."

So off to the brownies' ball went Nimble Hop and Thimble Top.

GIMCRACK'S PARTY

Once upon a time the brownies gave a party. It was a big party.

Some of the fairies called it the brownies' ball.

Gimcrack was the oldest brownie in all the brownie country. So the party was given at Gimcrack's home.

And what kind of home did Gimcrack have? Indeed, it was a strange home!

His home was once the den of a big old bear! The bear had not lived there for a long time.

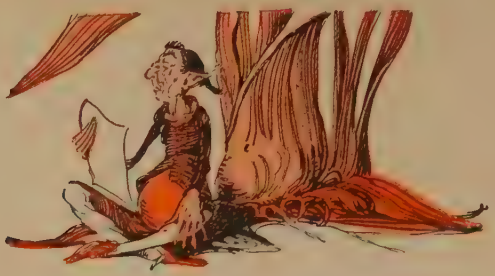
Gimcrack thought the bear was never coming back. So he moved into the old bear's home.

Many other brownies made their home with Gimcrack.

So the Gimcrack brownies decided to give a big party.

It was to be a grand party. Indeed, it was to be a ball!

"It was a big party"



"The Crusty Old Elf"

They invited many brownies. They invited many other fairies.

Brownie Timtack took the invitations to all the fairies.

The first one he invited was the Crusty Old Elf.

The Crusty Old Elf smiled when he read the invitation.

The Crusty Old Elf wrote he would be pleased to come.

The next to receive an invitation was the Heather-Sprite.

"The Heather-Sprite"

She wrote at once she would be overjoyed to come.

Brownie Fiddlestick was the next one called upon.

He wrote he would be delighted to come.

Now Fiddlestick's clothes were too much worn to go to the ball.

He must have some new clothes.

He needed a new suit, a new hat, and new shoes.

He first went to the Willow-Weaver.

"He must have some new clothes"

He bought a new cap and a new suit of clothes from the Willow-Weaver.

He gave forty roasted chestnuts for the cap and suit.

Then he went to the Crusty Cobbler.

He bought a new pair of shoes from the Crusty Cobbler. He paid ten roasted chestnuts for the shoes.

He was then ready to go to Gimcrack's party.

Timtack invited so many brownies! He went as far as the ones that live under the Twinkle Stars. He invited many other fairies, too.

At last the great day for the party came.

You may be sure, all the Gimcrack brownies were very busy.

Each brownie had something to do.

Refreshments must be made ready. The house must be decorated.

Never Bad and Ever Glad decorated the house.

Gimcrack and Timtack baked the cookies.

"Baked the cookies"

Gimcrack rolled the dough and cut out the cookies. Timtack did the baking.

Not one of the whole brownie tribe was idle for a moment.

Evening at last came. The guests began to arrive.

First came Nimble Hop and Thimble Top.

My! but they did look fine in their new suits Robin Redbreast gave them!

"Six musicians came"

Then other brownies came. Sometimes five or six came together.

Six musicians came from the Twinkle Star brownies. They played beautiful fairy music.

The Crusty Old Elf and the Oak Fairy came together.

Next came the pixies. Then the goblins and a lot of other fairies came.

Some of the fairies road in carriages to the party. They drove their little fairy ponies.

Others rode on the backs of cottontails.

The cottontails came jumping very high.

The brownies held to their ears.

"Came jumping high"

"Rode their circus ponies"

A number of circus brownies rode their circus ponies.

Still other fairies came in other ways.

One pixie drove a team of mice.

A river ran near Gimcrack's home.

So some of the guests came down the

"Down the river in boats"

river in boats. But a large number of the fairies walked to the party.

How happy everybody was!

Sunny Day and Goodfellow were on the reception committee.

They made all the guests feel at home at once.

You should have seen that brownie home! It was beautifully decorated.

Never Bad and Ever Glad had done their work well.

Then you should have seen all the

"All spick and span"

guests! They were all so spick and span!

They were all ready for the grand party.

You should have just smelled the good things the brownies had ready to eat.

The smell was like wedding cake, fried chicken, cherry pie, and cookies all mixed up together.

There never was such a party as the

Gimcrack brownies' ball. They had everything that makes a jolly party.

They had music, dancing, refreshments, games, sports, and singing all at the same time.

All the fun was at the very tiptop.

Then what do you think happened?

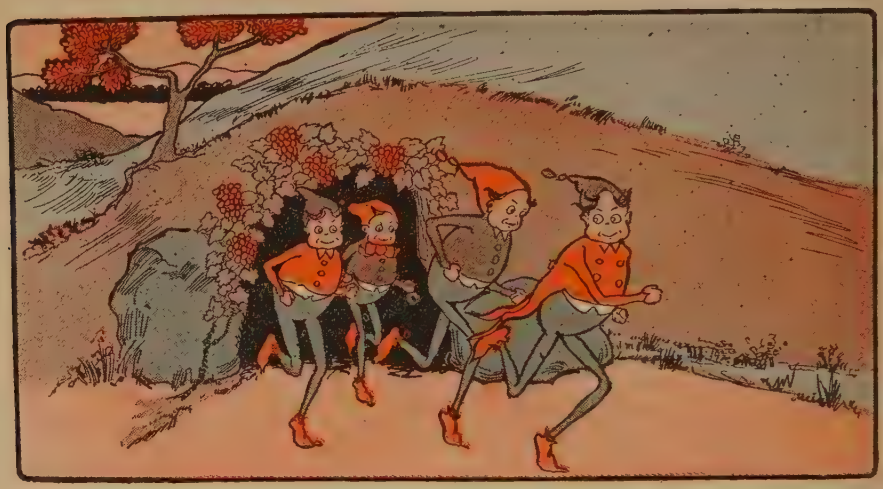
The old bear that once lived in Gimcrack's house came by that way.

"Well, well!" said he, "what can be the matter in there?" And the old bear looked in.

"Looked in"

Oh! goodness! How frightened the fairies were!

How would you like to have an old bear pop his head into the very middle of your jolly party?



"Left as fast as their legs could carry them"

It was a lucky thing there was a back door to Gimcrack's home.

All the guests left that way as fast as their legs could carry them.

Such running you never saw!

What do you think that old bear did?

He didn't begin singing, or dancing, or playing games.

"Such running you never saw!"

He sat right down to the table. And how he did enjoy the refreshments!

He acted as if the party had been made on purpose for him.

So ended Gimcrack's party.

"Then they talked it all over"

The Gimcrack brownies ran till their little legs were tired.

Then they stopped running. They were about two miles from home.

Gimcrack got his little brownie tribe together. Then they talked it all over.

"What made you all run so?" said Gimcrack.

"I just couldn't help it," said Timtack. "I didn't see you standing still, Gimcrack."

"They climbed up in trees"

"No," said Gimcrack, "I had to go along to keep the rest of you from getting lost."

"That was very thoughtful of you," said brownie Fiddlebow.

"The old bear could not come up there"

The Gimcrack brownies talked a long time.

They made plans to go back home. It was too late to go that night.

They decided to go the next morning. They were not afraid.

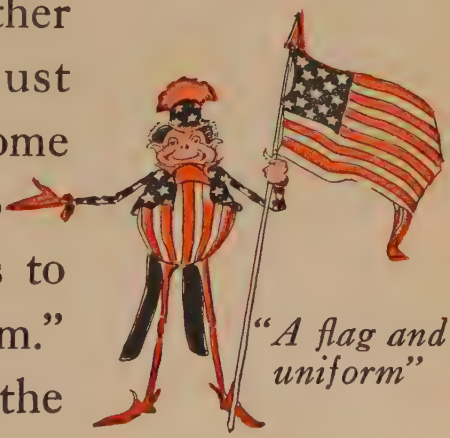
They would drive the cross old bear far away from their home.

They climbed up in trees. They were sure the old bear could not come up there.

So they stayed up in the trees the rest of the night.

The next morning Gimcrack was up early.

He said to the other brownies, "You just wait here till I come back. I am going to the Willow-Weaver's to get a flag and uniform."



"A flag and uniform"

Gimcrack went to the Willow-Weaver's.

He bought a flag and uniform. In payment he gave his note for one hundred

"Forward! March!"

roasted chestnuts. Then he came right back to the other brownies.

He put on the uniform. He took the flag in his hand.

How grand he did look! Surely he could chase the old bear away!

Then Gimcrack said, "Forward! March!" And the Gimcrack brownies marched toward home.

They sent Timtack ahead as a spy.

He slipped up behind a tree. The tree stood right by the door of their home.

Timtack could see through the crack in the door. There lay the old bear asleep.

Timtack ran back and told the other brownies.

The musicians were so scared the night before they threw their horns and drums away.

"A spy"

The Gimcrack brownies quickly picked up the horns and drums.

They ran up and burst in pell-mell at the door of their home.

They began to beat the drums and blow the horns. The old bear was nearly frightened to death.

"Lived happily ever afterwards"

He set up a great howl. He ran out at the door. He kept on running. He never came back.

And the Gimcrack brownies, you may be sure, were very happy.

They gave many more brownie parties. They lived happily ever afterwards.

HIDE AND SEEK

"Let us play hide and seek," said brownie Ever Glad.

"I like to play hide and seek," said brownie Never Bad.

"The moon is shining bright," said brownie Funny Play.

These three happy little brownies went out to the wheatfield.

They went out to play hide and seek.

They liked to play out among the sheaves of wheat. How fast the brownies ran!

They ran among the sheaves of wheat.

They played hide and seek.

Never Bad and Ever Glad hid behind a sheaf of wheat.

"They played hide and seek"

Funny Play went to look for them. He tiptoed very slowly.

He looked to the right. He looked to the left.

He looked behind. He looked in front.

Then he saw Never Bad and Ever Glad. He saw them behind the sheaf of wheat.

He said, "I see you, Ever Glad. I see you, Never Bad."

Then they all ran very fast.

THE BROWNIE DANCE

Once upon a time two little boys lived with their grandmother.

Fred and Ned were the names of the boys. They were twins. They looked as much alike as two peas.

Their grandmother's home was near an old forest.

Their grandmother often told them a story about the little brownie men.

The little brownie men lived out in the old forest.

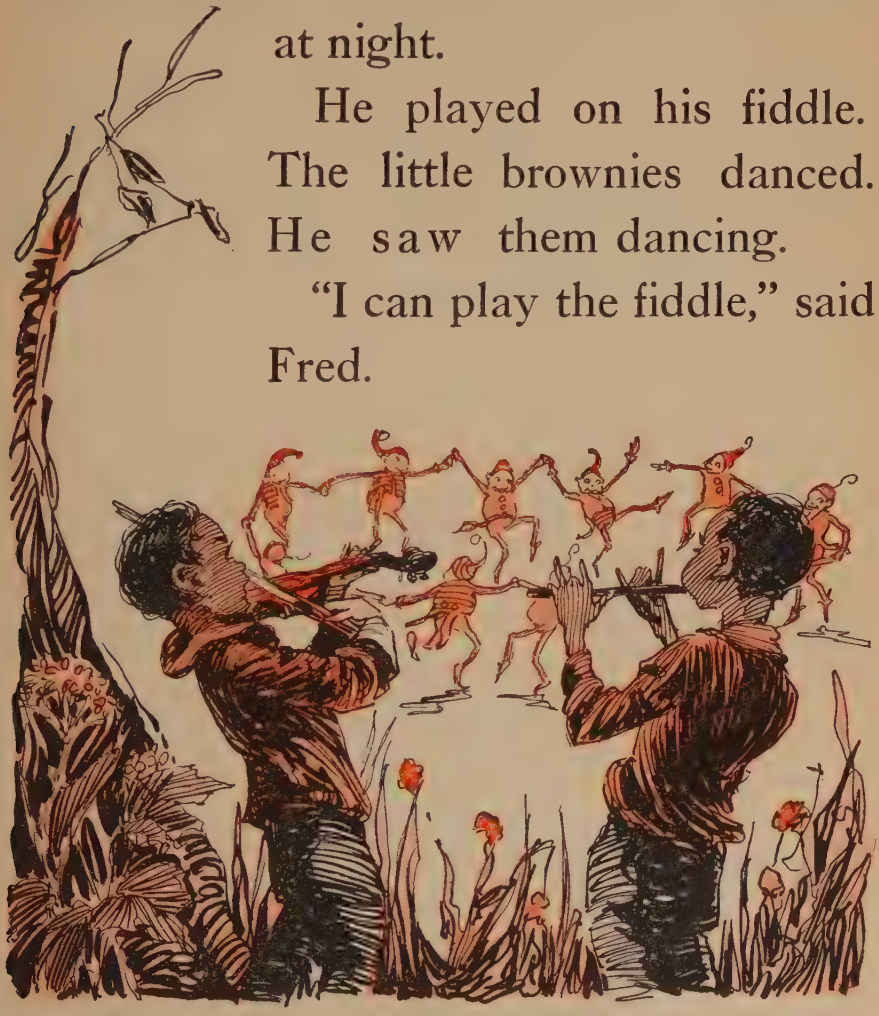
"These little brownies can be seen only at night," said the grandmother.

She told the boys how their great-great-grandfather once saw the little brownies.

The great-great-grandfather could play on the fiddle. He went out into the forest at night.

He played on his fiddle. The little brownies danced. He saw them dancing.

"I can play the fiddle," said Fred.



"The little brownies danced"

"I can play a brownie dance on the flute," said Ned.

"We will play for the brownies to dance," said Fred.

That night Fred and Ned went out into the forest. They waited till twelve o'clock. The moon was shining.

Then Fred began to play the fiddle. Ned began to play the flute.

Soon the brownies began to come out from among the trees.

They formed in a circle. They joined hands. They danced very fast. Ned and Fred played faster. The brownies danced faster.

Faster and faster played Fred and Ned. Faster and faster danced the brownies.

Fred and Ned could see the brownies plainly. They were right before them.

Twelve little brownie men were dancing in a circle.

The boys wished very much to take a good look at the brownies.

Fred stopped playing the fiddle. Ned stopped playing the flute.

"Hello!" said Fred.

"Hello!" said Ned.

That was the end. In the wink of an eye not a brownie could be seen.

TWELVE O'CLOCK AT NIGHT

There was once a poor old lady who lived by herself. She was weak and old. She could not do the work about the house.

The brownies came every night at twelve o'clock. They did the work for the old lady.

Sunny Day washed the dishes.

Good Luck scrubbed the floor.

Goodfellow washed the windows.

"Scrubbing the floor is as good as play," said Good Luck.

"Washing the windows makes play all the better," said Goodfellow.

"I like to wash dishes better than any other work," said Sunny Day.

"Three little brownies did all the work"

So the three little brownies did all the work for the poor old lady.

They kept the house clean from top to bottom.

They did all the chores.

They carried in the wood. They carried

in the water. They carried out the ashes.

They kept everything clean around the house.

Good Lad often came and helped.

"They husked the corn"

Then there were four little brownies to do the work.

They raked the yard. They hoed in the garden. They husked the corn.

"The brownies take care of me," said the old lady. "I could not live without them. They are dear, good little men."

JAMIE AND THE BROWNIES

Jamie was a happy little shepherd boy.

He could play beautifully on the shepherd's pipe.

Jamie was born on Friday, the thirteenth of the month. He was a good luck boy. He could see brownies.

Only a very few people can see brownies. So Jamie was not like most boys. He could see these happy little men.

The brownies all liked Jamie. They liked him because he was a good boy.

They liked him because he could play so beautifully on the shepherd's pipe.

The brownies liked to dance to Jamie's music.

"Jamie liked to play for the brownies"

Many times they came and asked Jamie to play for them.

Jamie liked to play for the brownies. He went with the brownies out into the forest.

He played on his shepherd's pipe. The brownies danced in a circle. They danced round and round.

They danced as long as Jamie would play.

"I like to dance," said Funny Play.

"I like to skip and hop," said Sunny Day.

The brownies made Jamie happy all day long.

They watched the sheep for him. They saw that no harm came to the sheep.

At night the brownies brought Jamie sweet and rosy dreams.

LITTLE BROWNIE HARVESTERS

Mr. Brown was a farmer who was old and poor. He was too old and weak to work out in the field.

He did not have anyone to work for him.

"The wheat must be shocked," said Mr. Brown. "I am too weak to do the work. What shall I do?"

"I will help Mr. Brown," said brownie Clod.

"I will help Mr. Brown," said brownie Goodfellow.

"I will help Mr. Brown," said brownie Sunny Day.

All the brownies said, "We will help Mr. Brown."

"Three brownies carried one sheaf"

Never Bad said, "Let us all go out into the field. Let us shock the wheat."

The brownies ran out into the wheat-field.

The moon was shining bright. It was a fine night to work.

"See me shock wheat!" said Good Luck.

"I will help you," said Good Lad.

"I will help you," said Goodfellow.

So three Brownies carried one sheaf.

All the brownies worked fast. They shocked all the wheat.

The next morning Mr. Brown looked out over the field. He rubbed his eyes and looked again.

"Yes," said he, "it is true. The wheat is all shocked. The brownies have been here."

Then he went out into the field. The work was all well done.

"Those dear little brownie men!" said he, "I don't know what I should do without them."

LITTLE JEAN AND THE BROWNIES

Little Jean was a little crippled boy. He was a hunchback.

He was a very sweet singer. He could play beautifully upon the guitar.

One night he was traveling through the forest. He lost his way.

It was a warm summer night. He decided to stay in the forest all night.

So he lay down by a big tree. His guitar was by his side. He was soon sound asleep.

Now this happened to be a brownie tree. Four little brownies made their home there.

At midnight the brownies began to sing.

Their loud cheerful song awakened Jean.

He rubbed his eyes and listened. He knew the tune they were singing very well.

They sang:

"Monday and Tuesday and Wednesday fine,
These are good days three."

They sang this over and over.

Jean thought the song was not complete. So he struck in with:

"Thursday and Friday and Saturday shine,
Six days for you and me."

Then Jean and the brownies sang together:

"Monday and Tuesday and Wednesday fine,
These are good days three;

"So said, so done"

Thursday and Friday and Saturday shine,
Six days for you and me."

The brownies were much pleased with Jean's fine voice.

They were also very much pleased be-

cause he had completed their song so nicely.

They climbed down out of the tree. They wanted to see Jean. They crowded around him and looked at him closely.

Nimble Hop said, "Little boy, we like you. We thank you for completing our song so beautifully."

Thimble Top said, "Ask what you will and we will grant your wish."

Little Jean didn't have to think long.

He said, "I wish to have the hump taken off my back."

So said, so done. Jean was at once straight and strong and fine.

He could hardly believe what had happened. He felt of his back. It was true the hump was gone.

He heard the leaves behind him rustle. He looked around. The brownies were gone.

Little Jean reached home the next morning.

You may be sure, everybody was surprised to see him straight and strong and fine. Jean and the brownies were the talk of the whole neighborhood.

"Have you heard what has happened to little Jean?" was the question everyone asked.

And the answer was, "He's seen the brownies, and he's straight and strong and fine."

Jean's Aunt Mary said, "The brownies took Jean's hump away because he is such a good and happy boy."

COASTING

The brownies like to run and play with sleds. They like to coast down steep hills.

"The night is fine and cold," said Good Luck.

"It is just right for coasting," said Good Lad.

So they hunted up their little red sled. They took turns in pulling each other.

Good Luck jerked the sled so quickly that Good Lad fell off. How Good Luck laughed!

Soon they heard the shouts of other brownies.

Good Luck and Good Lad ran to where they heard the shouts.

"Took turns in pulling each other"

They found the other brownies coasting down a steep hill.

There were Gimcrack, Timtack, Sunny Day, Funny Play, and many other brownies.

Good Luck and Good Lad joined in at once.

The hill was steep. The road was slick as glass.

"All piled up together"

The sleds went from the top to the bottom like a flash. How very happy all the brownies were!

"It is fine going down, but hard going back," said Never Bad.

But the brownies were jolly little fellows.

They sang and laughed, and pulled their sleds to the top of the hill.

Then down they went again. All went

fine till Gimcrack ran out of the path and ran against a stump.

His sled turned over on top of him. Quick as a flash the other sleds came and all piled up together.

The brownies bumped their heads together. They bumped their noses and elbows.

But what matters if one does get bumped when coasting is fine?

The brownies didn't care.

"A few bumps make coasting all the better," said Goodfellow.

The brownies pulled themselves out of the tangle. They kept on coasting with shouts and laughter.

But before the sun came up they all scampered back to their homes.

THE BROWNIES AND THE COTTONTAILS

"The moon shines bright to-night," said Ever Glad.

"Sleighing is fine," said Never Bad.

"Let us have a sleigh ride," said Gimcrack.

All the brownies wanted a sleigh ride.

"Catch six cottontails. Hitch them to our new sleigh," said Gimcrack.

Away ran six brownies to find the cottontails. The cottontails were near by. The brownies soon found them.

The cottontails didn't want to be caught. They didn't want to be hitched to the sleigh.

"Soon caught six cottontails"

The cottontails ran fast. The brownies ran faster.

The brownies were too quick for the cottontails.

The brownies soon caught six cottontails.

Then they climbed on the cottontails' backs.

The cottontails jumped high. The brownies stuck tight.

"Came riding in on the six cottontails"

The cottontails ran fast. The wind whistled in the brownies' ears.

The brownies soon came riding in on the six cottontails.

The cottontails did not like to stand still. The brownies had to hold them. The cottontails jumped high. The brownies would not let them go.

The brownies worked fast. They soon

"Away went the cottontails"

had the cottontails harnessed. They put sleigh bells on them.

Then they hitched them to the sleigh.

Gimcrack took the reins. He jumped into the sleigh.

Then he said, "Be quick! All jump in!"

The brownies were all in before you could count three. Away went the cottontails. They ran like the wind.

They tried to run away, but Gimcrack held to the reins.

The cottontails ran faster. The brownies' stocking caps and coat tails snapped in the wind.

Snap! snap! snap! went the whip.

Jingle! jingle! jingle! went the little bells.

Still faster the cottontails ran. One snowdrift was a little too big. The sleigh turned over.

The cottontails tried to run away. Gimcrack held fast to the reins.

The brownies righted the sleigh.

They were in the sleigh before the cottontails could take two jumps.

Away the cottontails whizzed again like the wind.

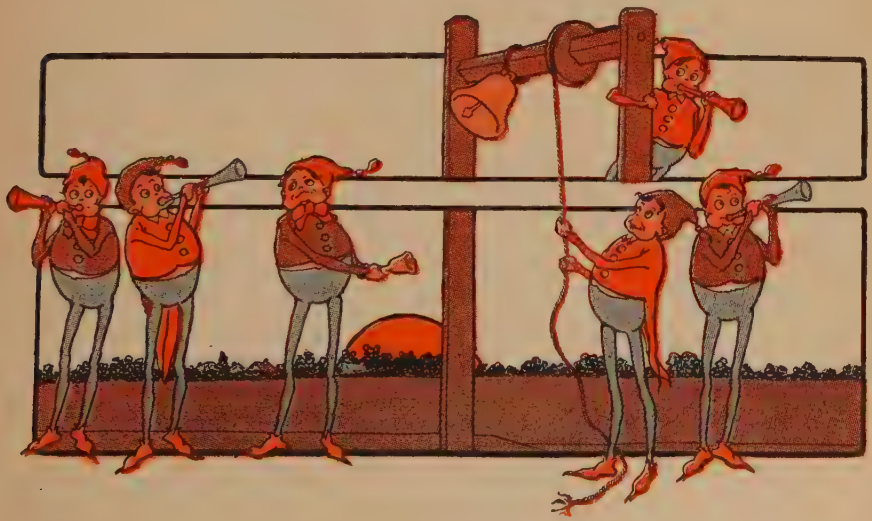
For five hours they ran without stopping again.

Then it began to be daylight. The brownies drove home.

They unhitched the cottontails. The cottontails quickly scampered to their homes.

"That was a jolly ride," said Sunny Day.

"We couldn't have had a better one," said Funny Play.



SKATING

The brownies wanted to learn to skate. So they bought some skates from the dwarfs. They paid the dwarfs ten roasted chestnuts for each pair of skates.

They took their skates and ran out upon the ice. They buckled on their skates.

"They began to try to skate"

They said, "Skating is a very fine sport."

The brownies had never skated. They had only seen boys and girls skate.

The brownies said, "We can skate, too."

They began to try to skate. Their feet slipped all about.

Their arms swung very fast. Then down they all tumbled. Some of their heels went over their heads.

"At last they learned"

"Danced till morning"

But they did not give up trying. Each one got many falls.

At last they learned so they could skate backward as well as forward. They wrote their names on the ice.

Then they went home and danced till morning.

THE SNOW FORT

"We have had so much fun skating, coasting and sleighing!" said Gimcrack.

"It is a very fine winter," said Goodfellow.

"The snow is just right for snowballing," said little Clod.

At the mention of snowballing one of the other brownies hit Clod with a snowball. The air was soon full of tiny snowballs.

All the brownies were throwing snowballs just as fast as they could.

At last Gimcrack said, "Let us choose sides and have a snowball battle."

So Gimcrack and Goodfellow chose sides.

"Ordered his men to charge"

Each side made a snow fort. Each side made ten thousand snowballs.

Goodfellow ordered his men to charge on Gimcrack's fort. Gimcrack shouted to his men to be brave. Before he could close his mouth, in popped a snowball.

Before he could get the snowball out, Goodfellow and his men jumped right into the fort. They tore the fort down.

Goodfellow and his men won the battle.

VALENTINES

"It will soon be Valentine Day," said Good Luck.

"Let us make valentines," said Goodfellow.

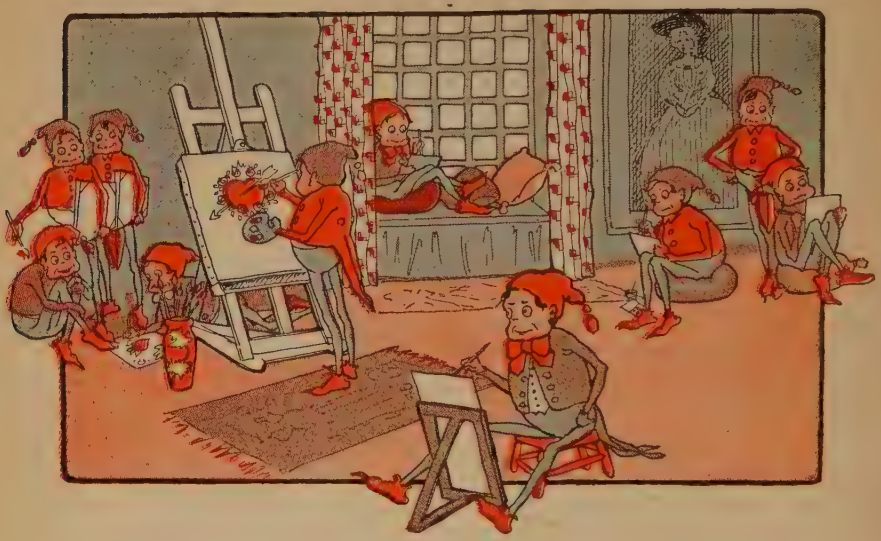
All the brownies wanted to make valentines.

"Let us begin at once," said Gimcrack.

So each brownie hunted up scissors and paints and paper. How busy they all were! You should have seen them at work! The pencils and brushes went fast.

They made pictures of birds and flowers. They made pictures of hearts.

There were big hearts, little hearts, and middle-sized hearts!



"The pencils and brushes went fast"

Then they made pictures of boys and girls. They made many other pictures.

The brownies wrote a little stanza for each picture they made.

Before Valentine Day came the brownies had made thousands of valentines.

Valentine Eve came. It was a fine winter evening.

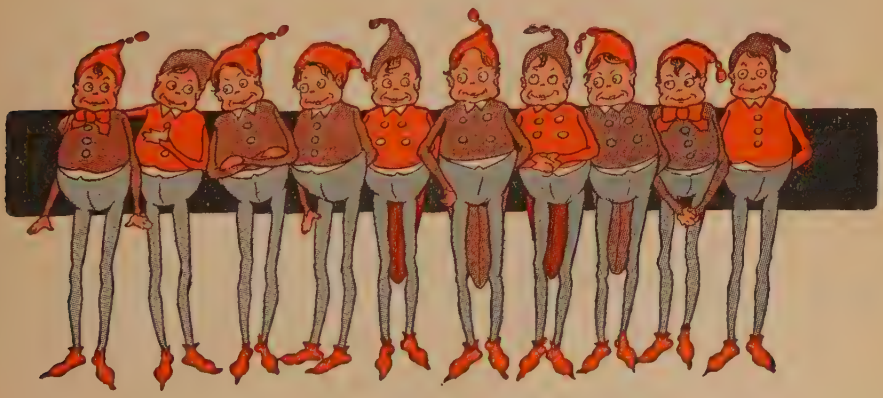
The brownies hitched the cottontails to their new sleigh.

Away they went like the wind. Before morning they had all the valentines delivered.

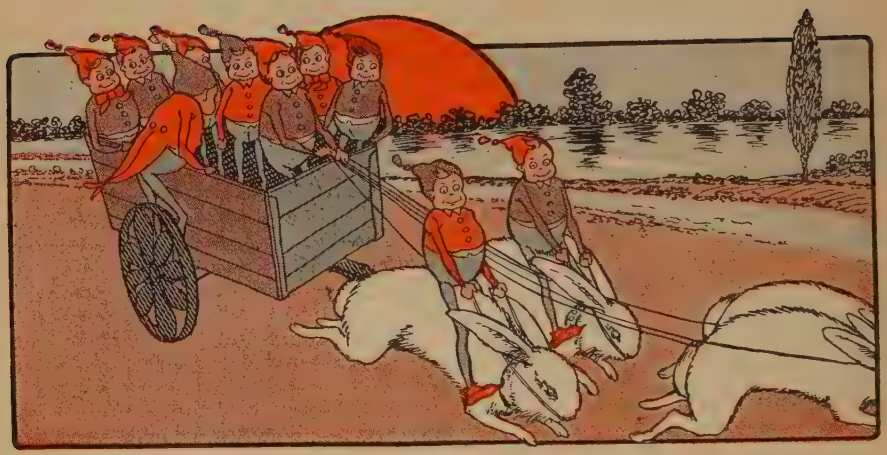
Valentine morning came.

The children all shouted, "What a beautiful valentine! The brownies have been here!"

How happy the children were!



EASTER EGGS



"It did not take long to find the Easter Rabbit"

"Easter will soon be here," said Nimble Hop.

"We must color some eggs for Easter," said Thimble Top.

"Let us help the Easter Rabbit color eggs," said Sunny Day.

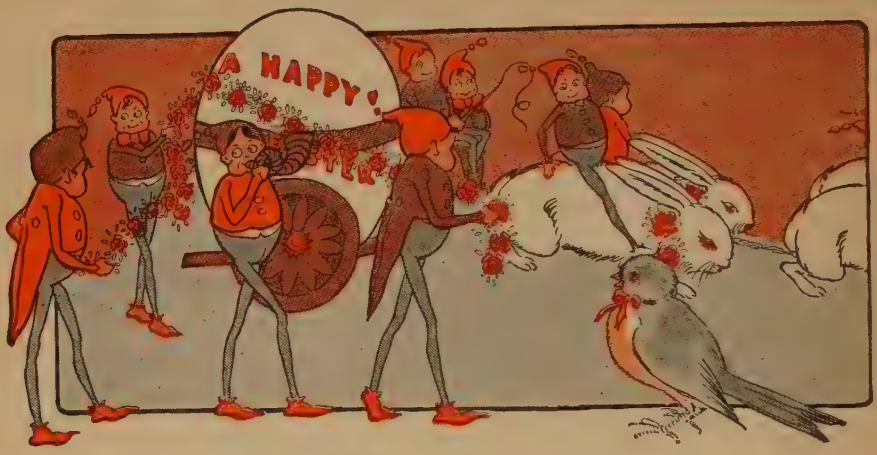
"The brownies colored the eggs"

All the brownies wanted to help the Easter Rabbit.

"We will hunt up the Easter Rabbit this very night," said Gimcrack.

The snow was all gone. So the brownies could no longer use their sleigh.

They made a nice little wagon. They caught the cottontails. They hitched them to the wagon. Two brownies rode two of the cottontails.



"Delivered the eggs in their new wagon"

The other brownies quickly climbed into the wagon. Away went the cottontails as fast as they could jump. It did not take long to find the Easter Rabbit.

The brownies had their paints and brushes. They all began at once to help the Easter Rabbit color the eggs.

You may be sure, the Easter Rabbit was pleased to have the brownies help him.

The brownies colored the eggs. They painted fine pictures on them.

"I like to paint eggs," said Sunny Day.

"I like to paint eggs as well as I do valentines," said Never Bad.

The brownies worked fast. They soon had all the eggs painted.

"We will help the Easter Rabbit take the eggs to the children," said Gimcrack.

"Let us take them in our new wagon," said Ever Glad.

The brownies delivered the eggs in their new wagon. There were many loads of eggs. The brownies and the Easter Rabbit worked fast. Before morning the eggs were all delivered.

The children shouted with joy, "See the eggs! The Easter Rabbit has been here!"

THE BROWNIE PICNIC

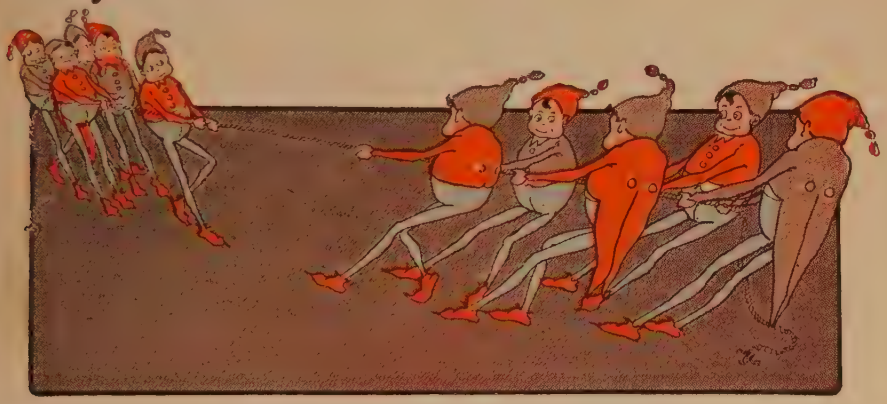
"They wound the Maypole"

It was the first day of May. The brownies decided to have a May Night picnic.

It was a beautiful May night. They hitched the cottontails to their wagon. They drove out into the forest. They put up a Maypole and tied ribbons on it.

They were soon ready to wind the Maypole. Each brownie took hold of a ribbon. They danced around the Maypole.

They wound the Maypole, and then they unwound it. They wound and unwound it many times.



"Pull hard! Hold fast!"

Then they chose sides, and played tug-of-war. Gimcrack and Goodfellow were the captains in the tug-of-war.

Captain Goodfellow shouted to his men, "Pull hard! Hold fast!"

Captain Gimcrack shouted to his men, "Hold steady! Just a little harder! We'll soon have them over the line!"

They pulled back and forth many times. At last Gimcrack and his men pulled Goodfellow and his men across the line. Then they all tumbled down.

Gimcrack's side won the game.

Seesaw was the next game played.

Some of the brownies put boards through the fence. Others placed boards across stumps or logs.

Up and down they went. They shouted and laughed and had a merry time.

They played till early morning.

"We have had a fine May Night picnic," said Gimcrack. "Hitch up the cottontails and we will all go home."